

3. (unchanged) The polynucleotide according to claim 2, wherein said leader sequence is the sequence reported in the annexed sequence listing as SEQ ID NO: 13 or the sequence reported in the annexed sequence listing as SEQ ID NO: 14.

4. (amended) A recombinant DNA vector comprising the polynucleotide according to [any of] claim[s] 1 [to 3] operatively linked to regulation elements allowing the expression of said polynucleotide.

5. (amended) The recombinant DNA vector according to claim 4, wherein said regulation elements [is]are a plant expression cassette allowing the tissue specific expression of said polynucleotide.

6. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 5, wherein said plant expression cassette includes the promoter of the gene coding for the protein basic globulin 7 S.

7. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 6, wherein said promoter has the sequence reported in the annexed sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:21

8. (amended) The vector according to claim 6 [or 7], wherein said plant expression cassette includes the leader sequence of the gene coding for the protein basic globulin 7 S.

9. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 8, wherein said leader sequence is the sequence reported as SEQ ID NO: 13.

10. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 5, wherein said plant expression cassette includes the promoter of the gene coding

for  $\beta$ -conglycinine protein.

11. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 10, wherein said promoter has the sequence reported in the annexed sequence listing as SEQ ID NO:22.

12. (amended) The vector according to claim 10 [or 11], wherein said plant expression cassette includes the leader sequence of the gene coding for the  $\beta$ -conglycinine protein.

13. (unchanged) The vector according to claim 12, wherein said leader sequence is the sequence reported in the annexed sequence listing as SEQ ID NO: 14.

14. (amended) A vegetal cell including the polynucleotide according to [any of] claim[s] 1 [to 3].

15. (amended) A vegetal cell including the vector according to [any one of the] claim[s] 4 [to 13].

16. (amended) A cellular aggregation obtainable from cells according to claim 14 [or 15].

17. (unchanged) The cellular aggregation according to claim 16, wherein said aggregations are calluses capable of regenerating transgenic plants.

18. (amended) A transgenic plant including in a tissue cell the polynucleotide according to [any of] claim[s] 1 [to 3].

19. (unchanged) The transgenic plant according to claim 18, wherein said tissue cell is a storage tissue cell.

20. (unchanged) The transgenic plant according to claim 18, wherein said tissue cell is a fruit tissue cell.

21. (amended) The transgenic plant according to [any of] claim[s] 18 [to 20], said plants being selected from the group consisting of solanaceae, cereals, leguminosae, fruit bearing plants and horticultural plants.

22. (unchanged) The transgenic plant according to claim 21, said plant being selected from the group consisting of soya, tobacco and rice.

23. (amended) [Use of] A method of using the vector according to [any of] claim[s] 4 [to 13] for the transformation of vegetal cells.

24. (amended) [Use of] A method of using the transgenic plant according to [any one of the] claim[s] 18 [to 22,] for the production of *nutriceuticals*.

25. (amended) [Use of] A method of using the transgenic plant according to [any of] claim[s] 18 [to 22,] for the production of human lactoferrin.

26. (amended) [Use of] A method of using the transgenic plant according to [any one of] claim 18 [to 22,] for the production of lactoferrin flours or of lactoferrin extracts obtained from tissues of said transgenic plant.

27. (amended) [Use of] A method of using the transgenic plant according to [any one of the] claim[s] 18 [to 22] for the production of functional foods containing lactoferrin.

[illegible]

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42. (unchanged) A cellular aggregation obtainable from the

cell according to claim 41.

43. (unchanged) The cellular aggregation according to claim 42, said aggregations being calluses capable of regenerating transgenic plants.

44. (amended) A transgenic plant including in a tissue cell the vector according to [any of] claim[s] 33[, 34, 39 or 40].

45. (unchanged) The transgenic plant according to claim 44, wherein said tissue cell is a storage tissue cell.

46. (amended) The transgenic plant according to claim 44, wherein said tissue cell[s] is a fruit tissue cell.

47. (amended) The transgenic plant according to [any of] claim [43 to 45]44, said plant[s] being selected from the group consisting of solanaceae, cereals, leguminosae, fruit bearing plants and horticultural plants.

48. (unchanged) The transgenic plant according to claim 47, said plant being selected from the group consisting of soya, tobacco and rice.

49. (amended) [Use of]A method of using the vector[s] according to claim[s] 33[, 34, 39 or 40] for the transformation of vegetal cells.

Please add the following new claims:

50. A vegetal cell including the vector according to claim 39.

51. A cellular aggregation obtainable from the cell according to claim 50.

52. The cellular aggregation according to claim 51, said aggregations being calluses capable of regenerating transgenic plants.

53. A transgenic plant including in a tissue cell the vector according to claim 39.

54. The transgenic plant according to claim 53, wherein said tissue cell is a storage tissue cell.

55. The transgenic plant according to claim 53, wherein said tissue cell is a fruit tissue cell.

56. The transgenic plant according to claim 53, said plant being selected from the group consisting of solanaceae, cereals, leguminosae, fruit bearing plants and horticultural plants.

57. The transgenic plant according to claim 56, said plant being selected from the group consisting of soya, tobacco and rice.

58. A method of using the vector according to claim 39 for the transformation of vegetal cells.

REMARKS

The claims in this application were amended during International Preliminary Examination (IPE). A copy of the amended and claims

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